

REMARKS

Claims 17-39 remain in this application. Claims 1-16 are cancelled without prejudice and claims 17-39 are newly added without entering any new matters.

5

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination of the present application. Applicant has carefully considered the examiner's opinion and made an amendment to the claims. Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the remaining claims for at least the reasons set forth herein.

10

Newly added claims 17-39 are patentable over the cited references Pitzer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,876,710) and Kim et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0001600):

Regarding claim 17, it recites:

15

Claim 17 (New): A clock generating circuit, comprising:

a clock generator for receiving a reference clock signal and thereby generating an output clock signal; and

a spread spectrum control circuit, coupled to the clock generator, for generating a modulated clock signal with frequency variation according to the output clock signal and a modulation value, comprising:

20

a modulation value generating circuit for outputting the modulation value; and

a frequency control circuit, coupled to the clock generator and the modulation value generating circuit, for **generating the modulated clock signal according to the output clock signal and the modulation value with which an average frequency of the modulated clock signal varies;**

25

wherein the clock generator operates in a way being independent of the spread spectrum control circuit, and the modulation value varies with time in a predetermined manner so as to force the average frequency of the modulated

clock signal to change up and down over time.

(Emphasis added)

Applicant asserts that the newly added claim 17 is patentable over Pitzer et al. in
5 view of Kim et al. because they fail to disclose a combination of the following claim
limitations: “a spread spectrum control circuit for generating a modulated clock signal
with frequency variation according to an output clock signal and a modulation value
which are respectively generated by a clock generator and a modulation value generating
circuit, wherein the clock generator operates in a way independent of the spread spectrum
10 control circuit, and the modulation value varies with time in a predetermined manner so
as to force an average frequency of the modulated clock signal to change up and down
over time”. Applicant also asserts that the newly added claim 25 is patentable over the
two prior arts because of the same reasons rendering claim 17 allowable. As claims 18-24
and 26-31 are respectively dependent upon claims 17 and 25, if claims 17 and 25 are
15 found to be allowable, so to should the dependent claims.

Regarding claim 32, it recites:

Claim 32 (New): A clock generating circuit, comprising:

20 a clock generator for receiving a reference clock signal and thereby generating an
output clock signal; and

**a spread spectrum control circuit, coupled to the clock generator, for generating
a modulated clock signal with frequency variation according to the output
clock signal and a plurality of control values,** comprising:

25 a modulation value generating circuit for outputting the plurality of control values
at different time, and the plurality of control values comprise a minimum value,
one or more medium values and a maximum value; and
a frequency control circuit, coupled to the clock generator and the modulation
value generating circuit, for **generating the modulated clock signal according**

to the output clock signal and the control values with which an average frequency of the modulated clock signal varies;
wherein the modulation value generating circuit outputs the minimum value, the medium value/values, the maximum value, the medium value/values, the
5 minimum value and so on over time so as to force the average frequency of the modulated clock signal to vary up and down with time.

(Emphasis added)

Applicant asserts that the newly added claim 32 is patentable over Pitzer et al. in
10 view of Kim et al. because they fail to disclose a combination of the following claim limitations: “a spread spectrum control circuit for generating a modulated clock signal with frequency variation according to an output clock signal and a plurality of control values which includes a minimum value, one or more medium values and a maximum value, wherein a modulation value generating circuit of the spread spectrum control
15 circuit outputs the minimum value, the medium value/values, the maximum value, the medium value/values, the minimum value and so on over time so as to force the average frequency of the modulated clock signal to vary up and down with time”. As claims 33-39 are dependent upon claim 32, if claim 32 is found to be allowable, so to should the dependent claims.

20

Conclusion:

Therefore, all pending claims are submitted to be in condition of allowance.
Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.
25 The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned if there are informalities that can be resolved in a phone conversation, or if the Examiner has any ideas or suggestions for further advancing the prosecution of this case.

Appl. No. 10/820,500
Amdt. dated August 10, 2007
Reply to Office action of May 16, 2007

Sincerely yours,

Winston Hsu

Date: 08.10.2007

Winston Hsu, Patent Agent No. 41,526

5 P.O. BOX 506, Merrifield, VA 22116, U.S.A.

Voice Mail: 302-729-1562

Facsimile: 806-498-6673

e-mail : winstonhsu@naipo.com

- 10 Note: Please leave a message in my voice mail if you need to talk to me. (The time in D.C. is 12 hours behind the Taiwan time, i.e. 9 AM in D.C. = 9 PM in Taiwan.)